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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/413,963	10/07/1999	JOHN LYNCH	85160.911CII	2650

33438 7590 06/29/2004

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EXAMINER
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BRODA, SAMUEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2123

DATE MAILED: 06/29/2004

18

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/413,963

Applicant(s)

LYNCH ET AL.

Examiner

Samuel Broda

Art Unit

2123

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 April 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 39-62 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 39-62 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 October 1999 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

Art Unit: 2123

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to Applicants' Response to Non-Final Office Action (the "Response") mailed on 12 April 2004. The Response resubmitted a previous amendment in which 16-38 were canceled and new claims 39-62 were added.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph*

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3.1 Claims 39-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

3.2 Regarding independent claims 39, 50, and 61-62, these claims include the one or more of the following terms:

<u>Term</u>	<u>Citations</u>
"a plurality of resources"	claim 39, line 6; claim 61, line 5; claim 62 line 7
"a resource comprising a combination of resources"	claim 50 line 7
"a resource"	claim 39, line 8; claim 50, line 10; claim 61, line 7; claim 62, line 10
"multiple like resources"	claim 39, lines 10-11; claim 50, line 13; claim 61 lines 9-10; claim 62 line 13

Art Unit: 2123

“the resource” claim 39, lines 9, 12; claim 50, lines 11, 14, 15; claim 61  
lines 8, 11, 12; claim 62 lines 11, 14, 15

These terms appear to contract each other and create antecedent basis problems; it is unclear when a “resource” comprises only one item and when a “resource” comprises multiple instances of items that themselves are defined as “resources.”

A review of the Specification does not appear to clarify the claim language cited above. The term “multiple like resources” does not appear anywhere in the Specification. At page 12 lines 12-30 the Specification describes the ability to pool resources, and the term “pooled resources” appears in dependent claims 40 and 51. As reproduced below, this description appears limited to power resources:

The structure hierarchy notion provides the ability to pool resources. Explicitly [sic] representation of structure, specifically hierarchical structure, provides the ability to define and access inherited resources. For example, computer, telecommunication, medical, or consumer electronic components can be placed in a cabinet that provides power to those components. These individual components can inherit the electrical power resource from a structural superior (i.e., a hierarchical entry that resides one or more levels above the components in the model hierarchy). Further, the structural superior can pool resources and provide an homogeneous resource to its structural inferiors (i.e., a hierarchical entry that resides one or more levels below the structural superior in the model hierarchy). For example, a cabinet might contain more than one electrical power source, however, the resource is presented to structurally inferior components as a single resource pool. Thus, if a component requires a particular resource, this

Art Unit: 2123

resource can be supplied by a resource pool. For example, if a desktop computer system's cabinet contains multiple power supplies, a disk drive component may draw from resource pool without any knowledge that the resource need is satisfied by multiple power sources.

However, a different definition of “resource” appears later in the Specification at page 33 lines 9-29, again making the scope of the claims unclear:

A resource is a system commodity that is associated with component types. A resource may be assigned to multiple component types. Multiple resources may be assigned to a component. When a component is instantiated, the resource assigned to this component type is made available to the configuration. When a component's resource is consumed, only the resource supplied by its associated component becomes unavailable. The availability of a resource of the same type that is offered by a second component is unaffected by the consumption of the first component's resource. Therefore, if the same resource type is available from a second component, the consumption of the first component's resource does not consume all of this resource type in the modeled system.

Before resource type can be assigned to a component type or used by a component instance, the resource type must be declared. A resource declaration has the following format:

```
resource <<ResourceName>>;
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An example of a resource declaration is as follows:

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resource static __RAM__ resource;
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Art Unit: 2123

In the first case regarding power supplies, the “resource” is a necessity that must be supplied to the system in order for the system to operate; in the second case, the “resource” is a commodity supplied by the component (such as the amount of static RAM) for use in the configuration. These conflicting meanings of the term “resource,” when compared with the multiple term uses in the claims, make the meaning and scope of the claims indefinite.

3.3 All dependent claims are rejected using the same analysis.

### *Conclusion*

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicants’ disclosure.

5. Applicants’ amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicants are reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

Art Unit: 2123

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Samuel Broda, whose telephone number is (703) 305-1026. The Examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Fridays from 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Kevin Teska, can be reached at (703) 305-9704. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist, whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



**SAMUEL BRODA, ESQ.  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**